

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 10-16, 25, 30, 35 and 38-43.

Please add new claims 44-58 as follows:

44. (New) A test kit useful for detecting a polynucleotide in a test sample, comprising:

a container containing at least one polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

45. (New) The test kit of claim 44 further comprising:

tools useful for the collection of the test sample, the tools selected from the group consisting of lancets, absorbent paper, cloth, swabs and cups.

46. (New) A purified polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

47. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 46, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

48. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 46, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by synthetic techniques.

49. (New) The purified polynucleotide of claim 46, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence encoding at least one epitope.

50. (New) A recombinant expression system comprising a nucleic acid sequence that includes an open reading frame operably linked to a control sequence compatible with a desired host, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

51. (New) A cell transfected with the recombinant expression system of claim 50.

52. (New) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising at least one epitope, said method comprising:

incubating host cells that have been transfected with an expression vector containing a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:24-28, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

53. (New) A cell transfected with a nucleic acid sequence, said nucleic acid sequence comprising a polynucleotide encoding at least one epitope, the polynucleotide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

54. (New) A purified polynucleotide which codes for a polypeptide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NOS:24-28, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

55. A purified polynucleotide which codes for a polypeptide having a sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

56. (New) A purified polynucleotide comprising DNA having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

57. (New) A purified polynucleotide comprising DNA having a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1-9, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.

58. (New) A purified polynucleotide comprising DNA encoding a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:24-28, the complete complements and degenerate coding sequences thereof.